

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 31 to 34, Claim 31 is the only independent claim. Claims 1 to 30 have been cancelled herein. Claims 31 to 34 are newly presented herein.

In the Official Action dated May 5, 2004, the drawings and specification were objected to on formal grounds. Claims 1, 2, 6 to 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,506,691 (Adams), Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,828,406 (Parulski) Claims 13 to 15, 17 to 21 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,236,433 (Acharya), Claims 3 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Adams '619 patent, and Claims 16 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Acharya '433 patent. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Initially, the title has been amended to describe more clearly the claimed invention, as requested by the Examiner.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 1 to 30 have been cancelled in favor of newly presented Claims 31 to 34, which have been added to provide Applicants with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure (see, e.g., Figs. 14A and 14B). No new matter has been added.

Applicants submit that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicants submit that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Adams '619 patent discloses an electronic camera in which a digital signal processor 22 executes interpolation processing of color image data (see, e.g.,

Column 5, line 17 to Column 6, line 32). However, Applicants submit the Adams '619 patent fails to teach color arrangement itself and therefore fails to teach the above-described feature of the first and second addition portions of the present invention.

The Parulski '406 patent discloses a color image sensor of a CCD type (Figs. 3A-4), which includes a horizontal shift register (e.g., 70, 76 and 78) to output pixel signals. However, Applicants submit the Parulski '406 patent fails to teach the first and second addition portions recited in the new independent Claim 31, and therefore does not teach the above-described feature of the present invention.

The Acharya '433 patent discloses the feature of converting a resolution of image data by operating on pixel data by a processor 527 (see, e.g., Column 9, lines 27 to 34). However, Applicants submit the Acharya '433 patent fails to teach the first and second addition portions recited in the new independent Claim 31. In addition, as shown in Fig. 2 of the Acharya '433 patent, spatial color arrangement pattern before resolution conversion processing is not equivalent to that after the conversion processing.

For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claims 32 to 34 depend from Claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claim 1, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

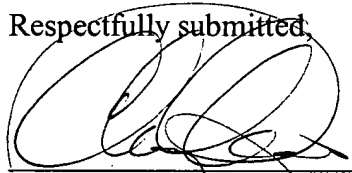
In formal matters, the specification has been amended as to matters of form. In particular, the specification has been amended at page 52, as suggested by the Examiner. The specification also has been amended at page 75 to correspond to the drawings, as noted by the Examiner in the formal objections to the drawings; accordingly, the formal objection to the drawings at elements 427, 431 and 421 is believed overcome/moot. No new matter has been added.

By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicants have submitted a Request for Approval to Amend the Drawings and Submission of Substitute Formal Drawings. In that Request, Applicants have amended Figs. 9, 10, 11, 22, 23 and 24 to correct inadvertent formal errors therein, as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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REMARKS

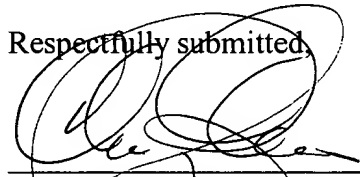
Applicants submit the proposed amendments to the drawings merely conform the drawings and the written description in the original disclosure, and therefore merely are formal in nature. Favorable consideration is requested

Also enclosed are corrected formal drawings. Applicants request that the corrected formal drawings be substituted for the corresponding original drawing sheets upon approval of the proposed changes.

Accordingly, favorable consideration is requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

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FIG. 1

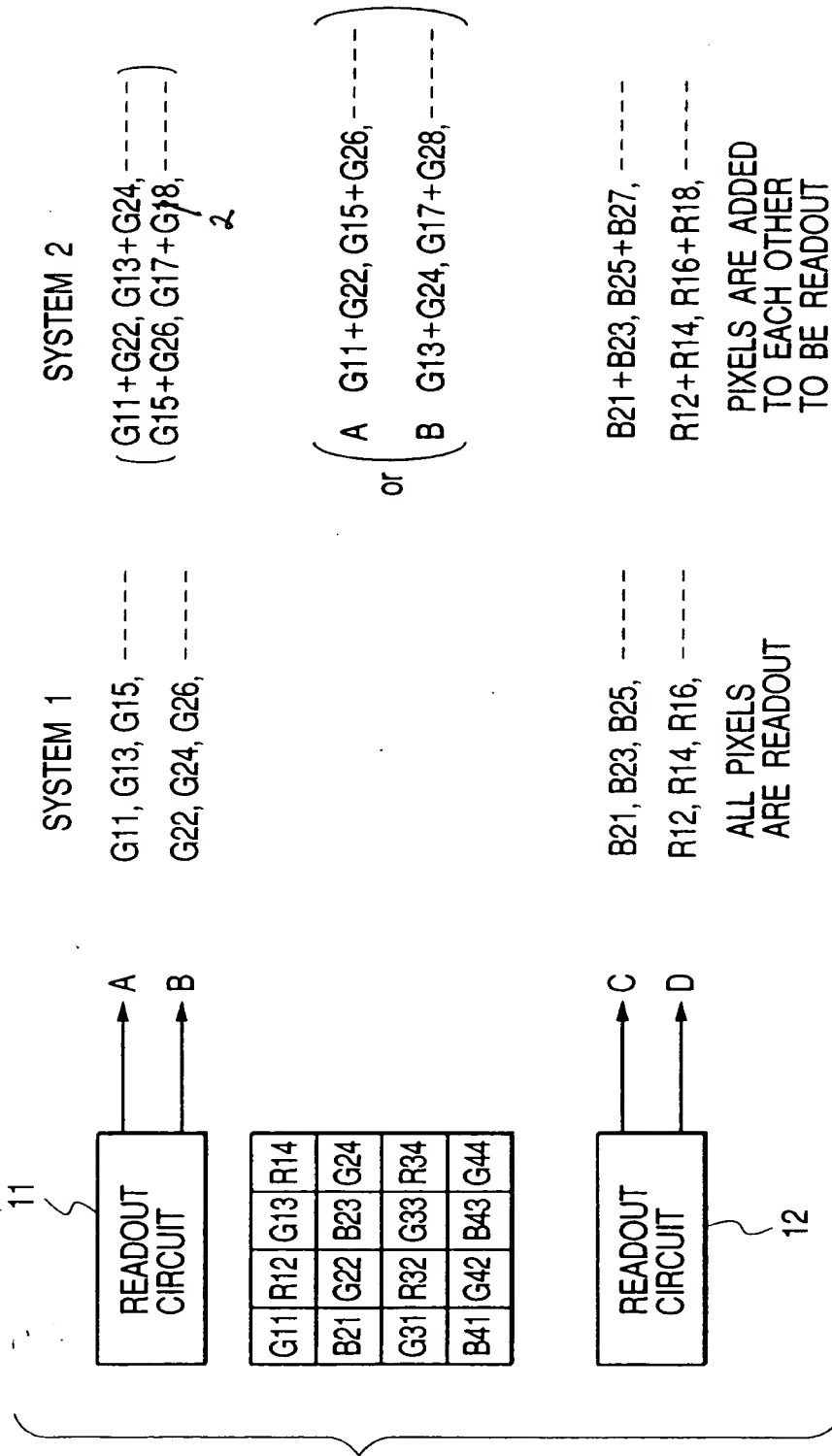




FIG. 9

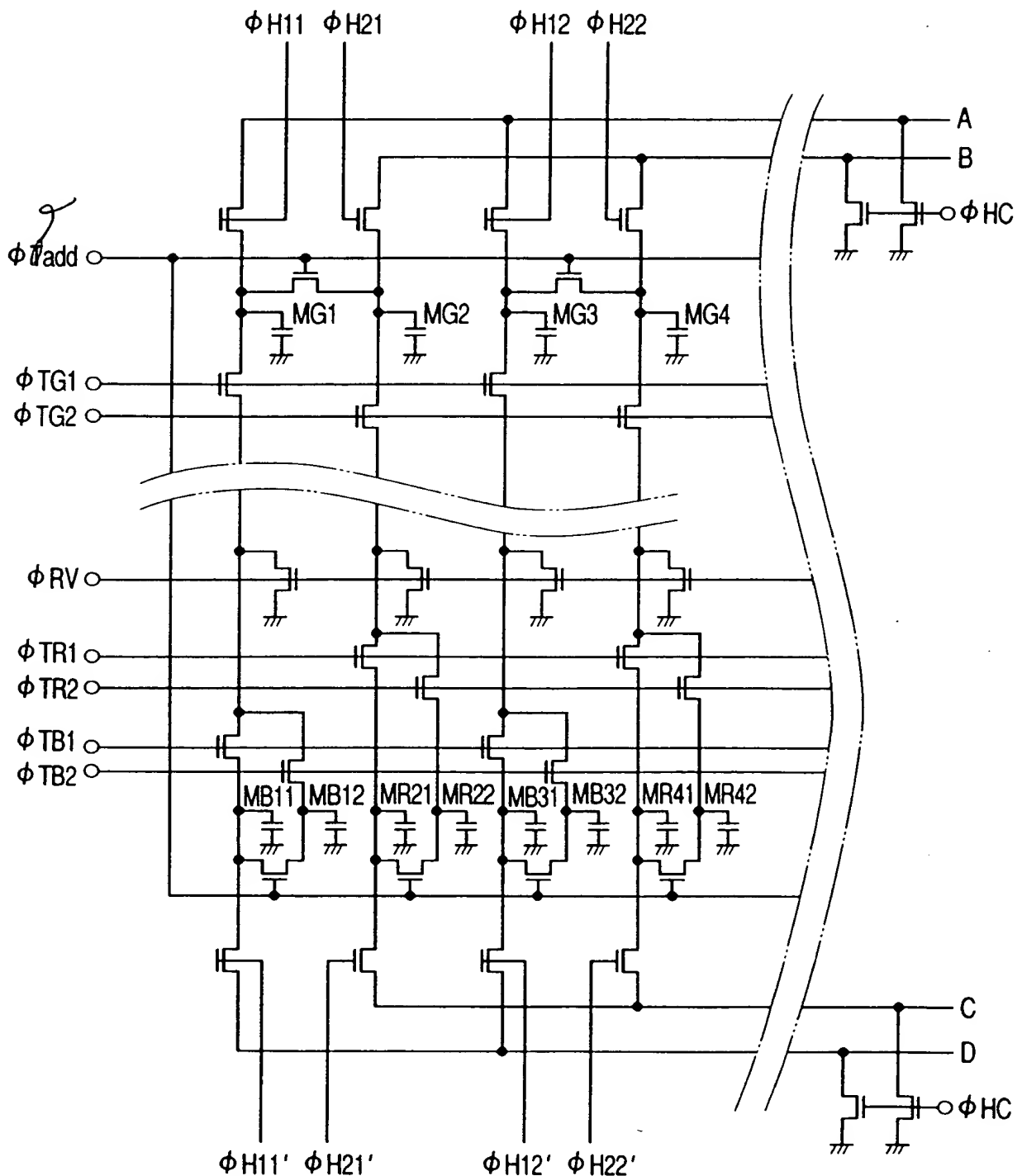


FIG. 10

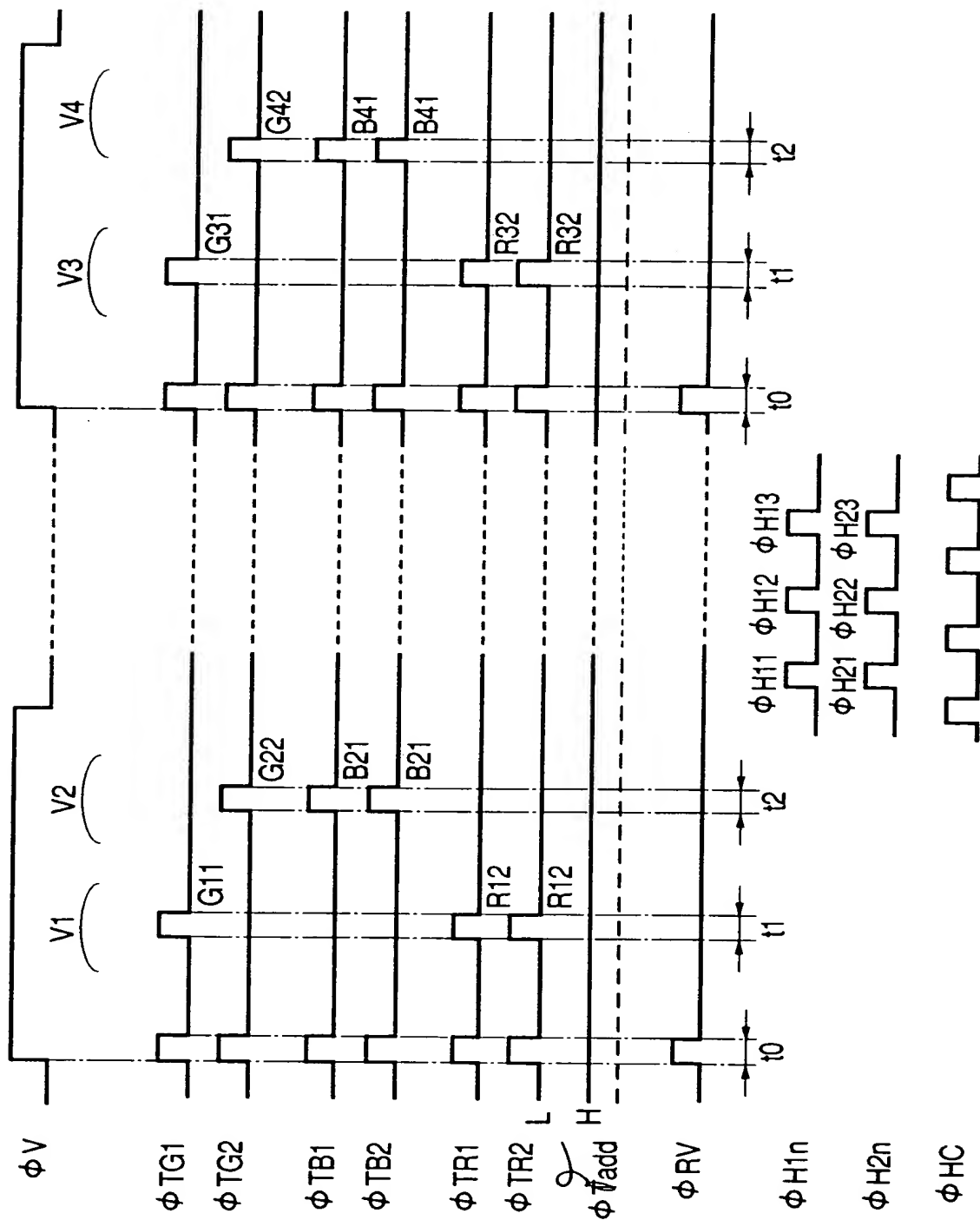




FIG. 11

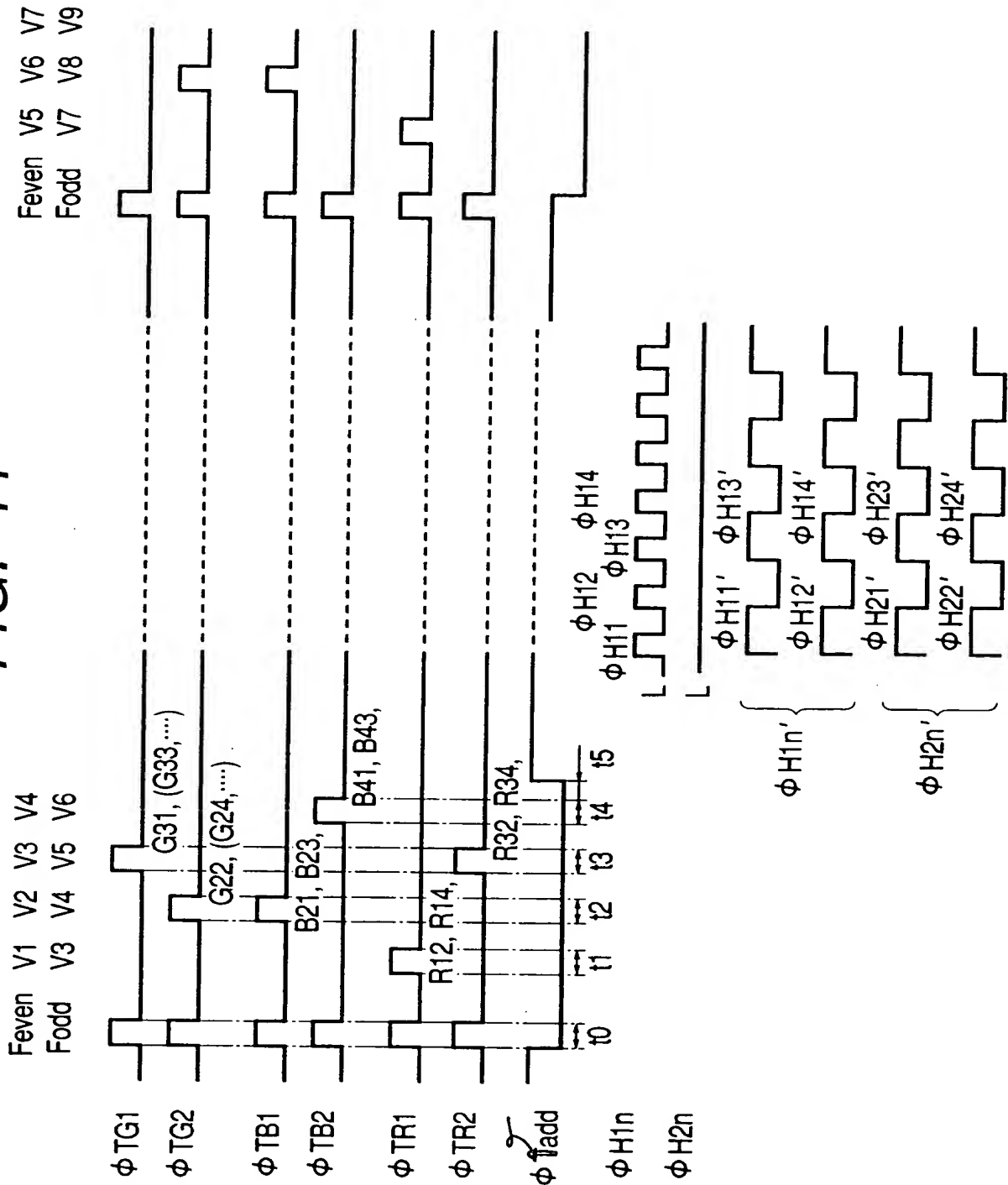




FIG. 17

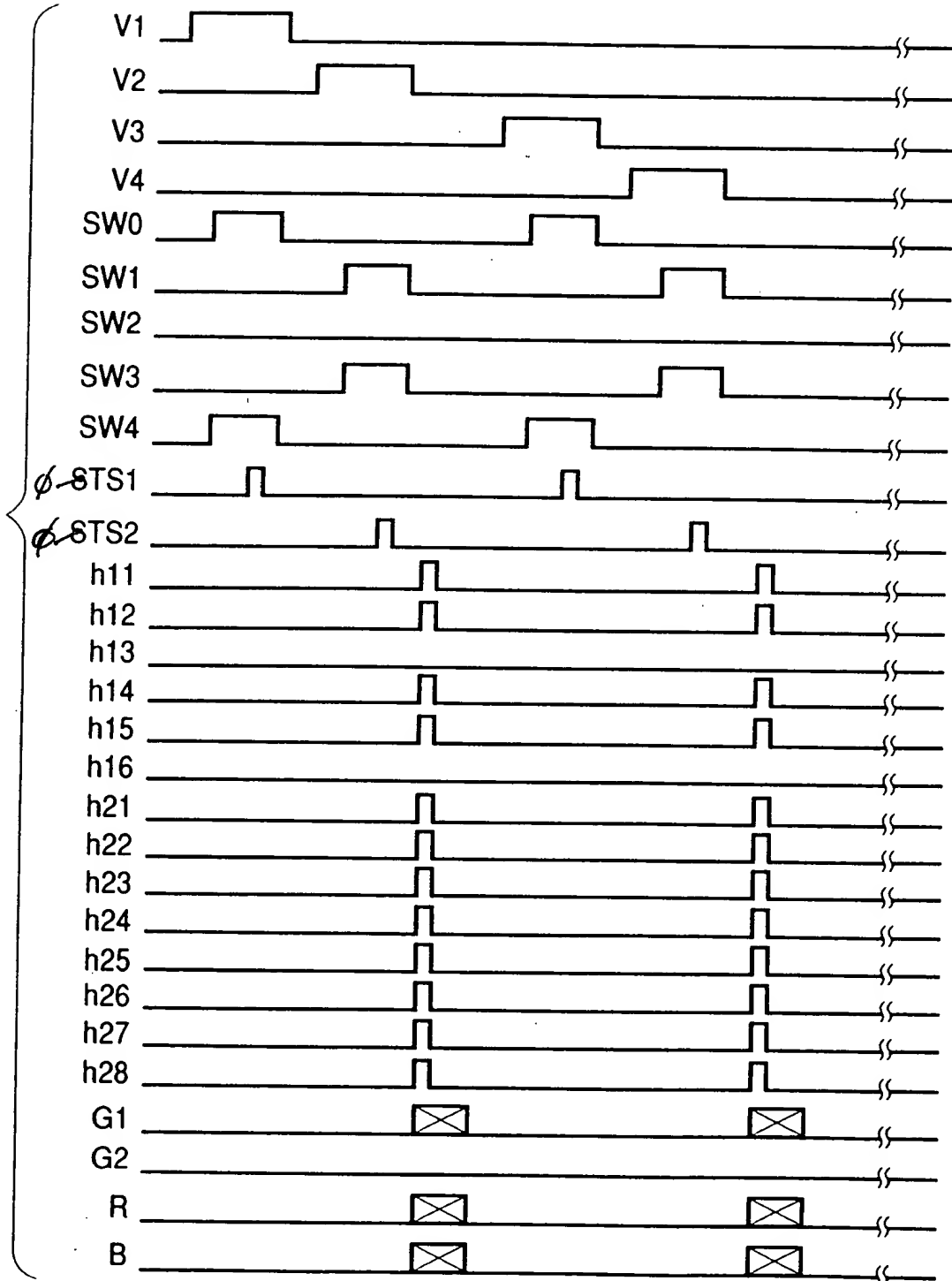




FIG. 18

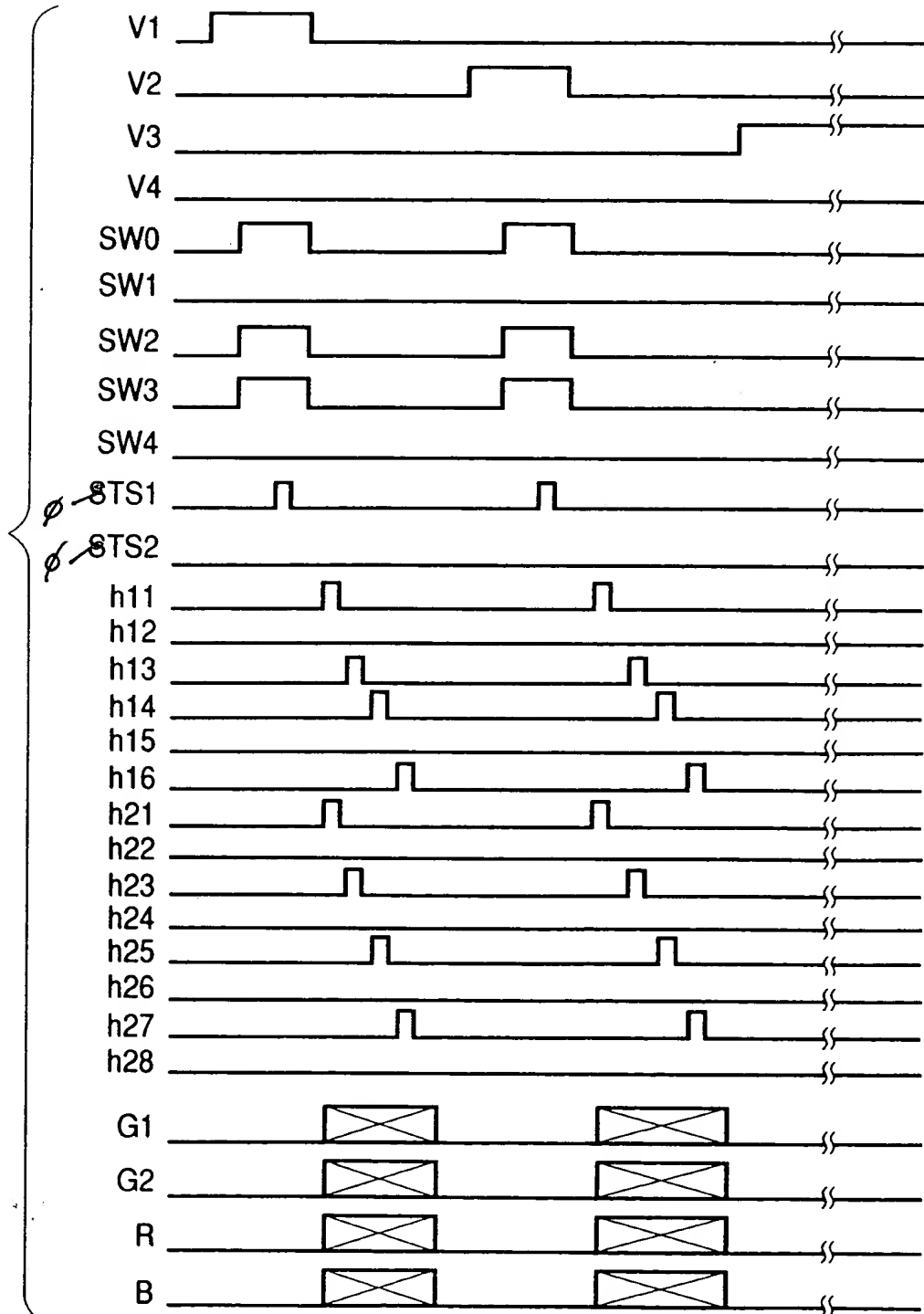
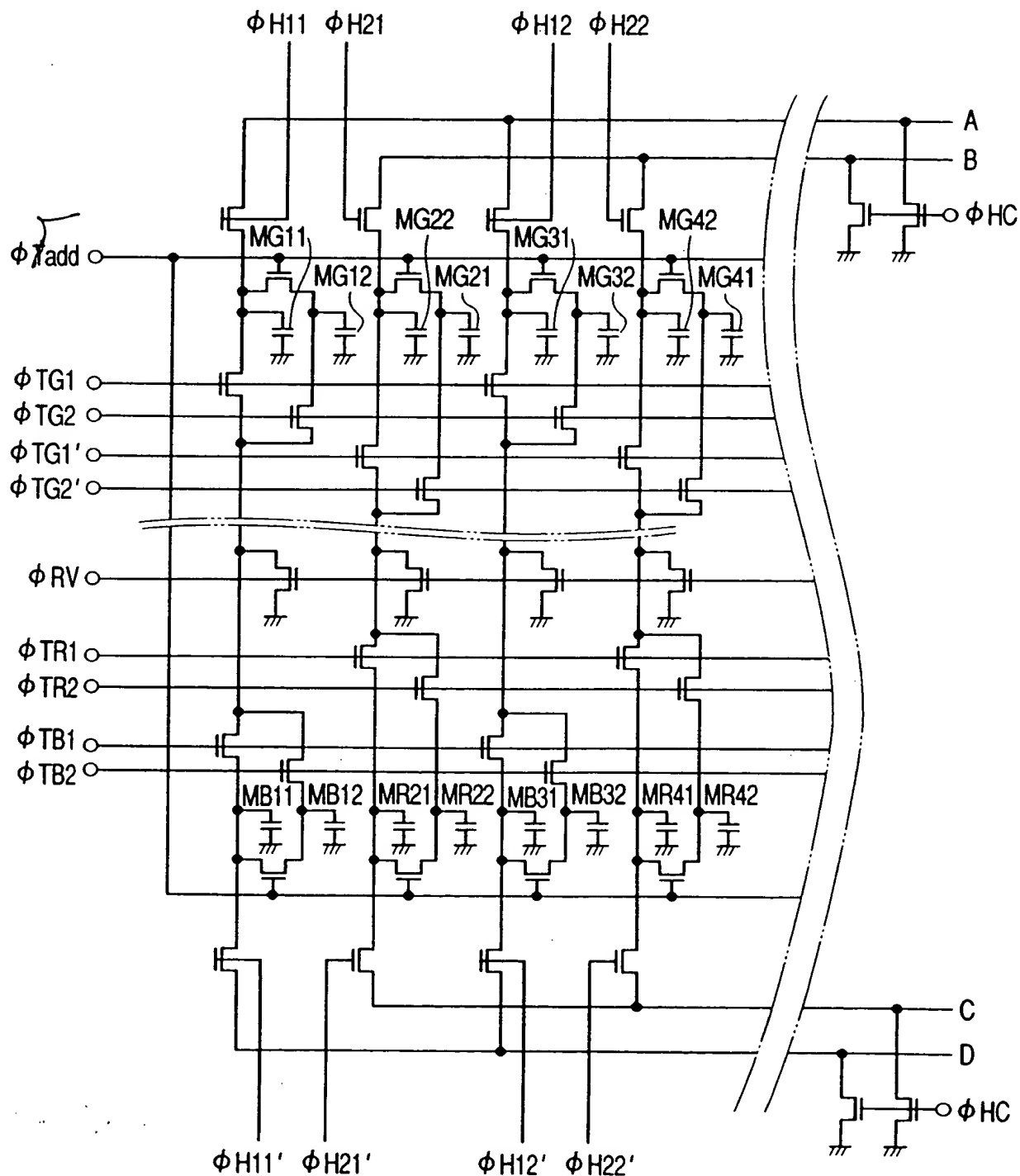


FIG. 22



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FIG. 23

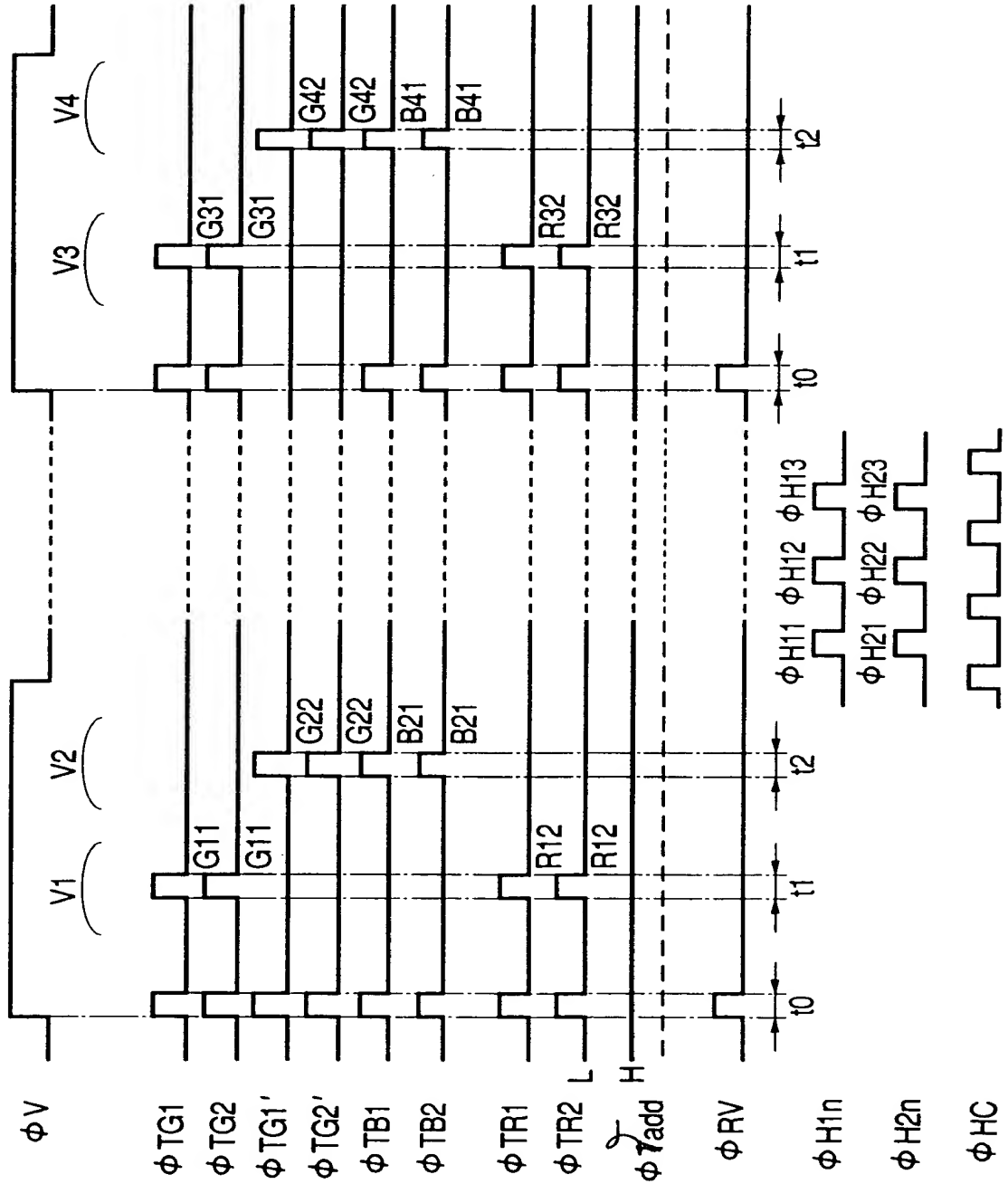


FIG. 24

